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J.M.C. Commencement Addresses
March 14, 1860.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

TO THE

GRADUATES

OF THE

JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE

OF

PHILADELPHIA.

DELIVERED AT THE

VERTICAL FILE

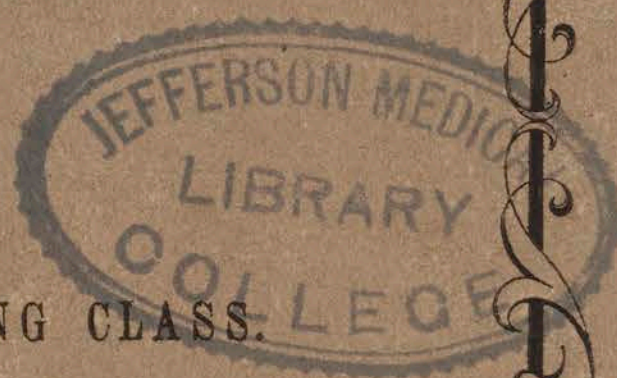
PUBLIC COMMENCEMENT, HELD MARCH 12, 1860,

BY

SAMUEL D. GROSS, M. D.,

PROFESSOR OF SURGERY.

PUBLISHED BY THE GRADUATING CLASS.

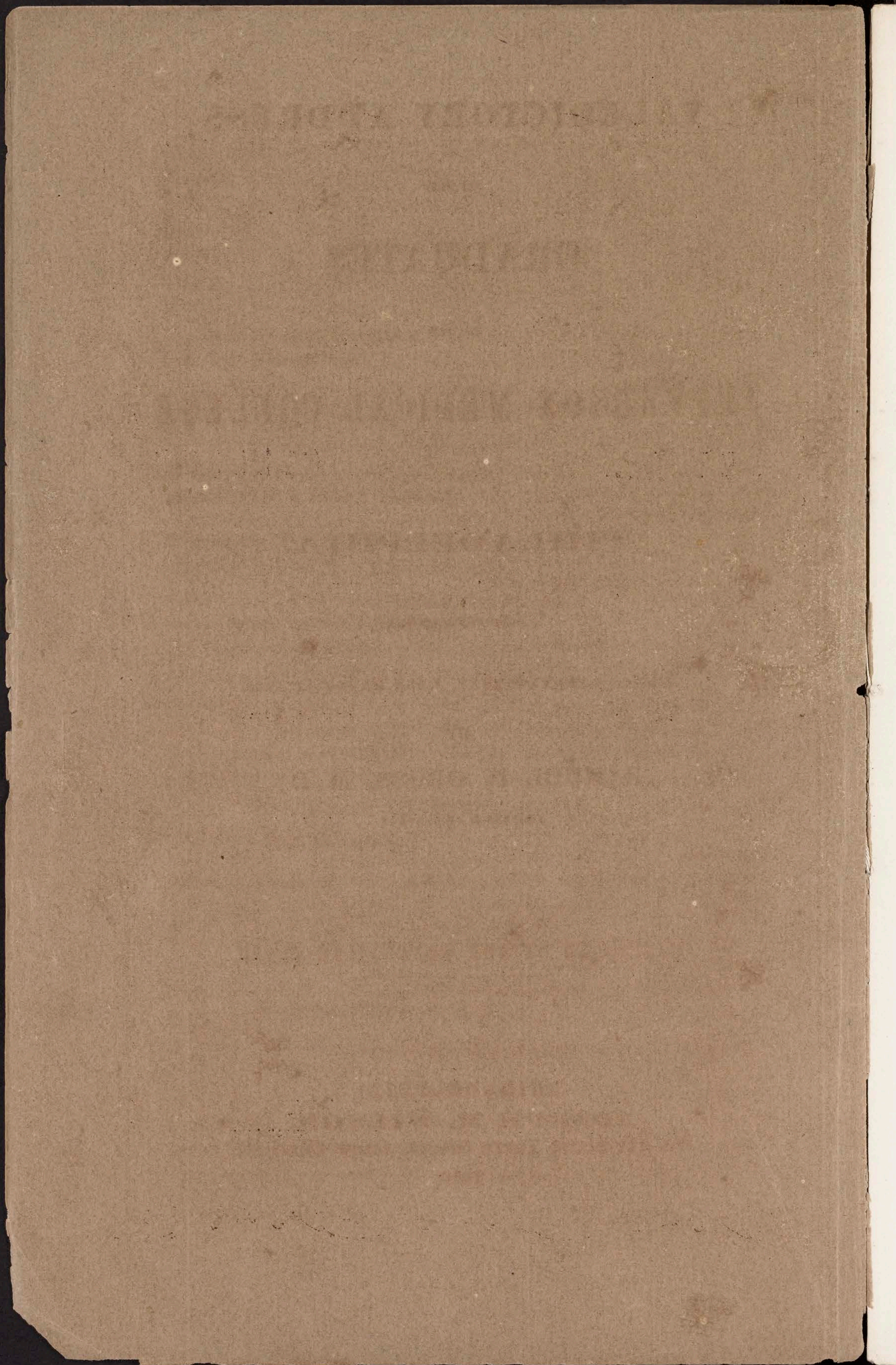


PHILADELPHIA:

JOSEPH M. WILSON,

No. 111 SOUTH TENTH STREET, BELOW CHESTNUT.

1860.



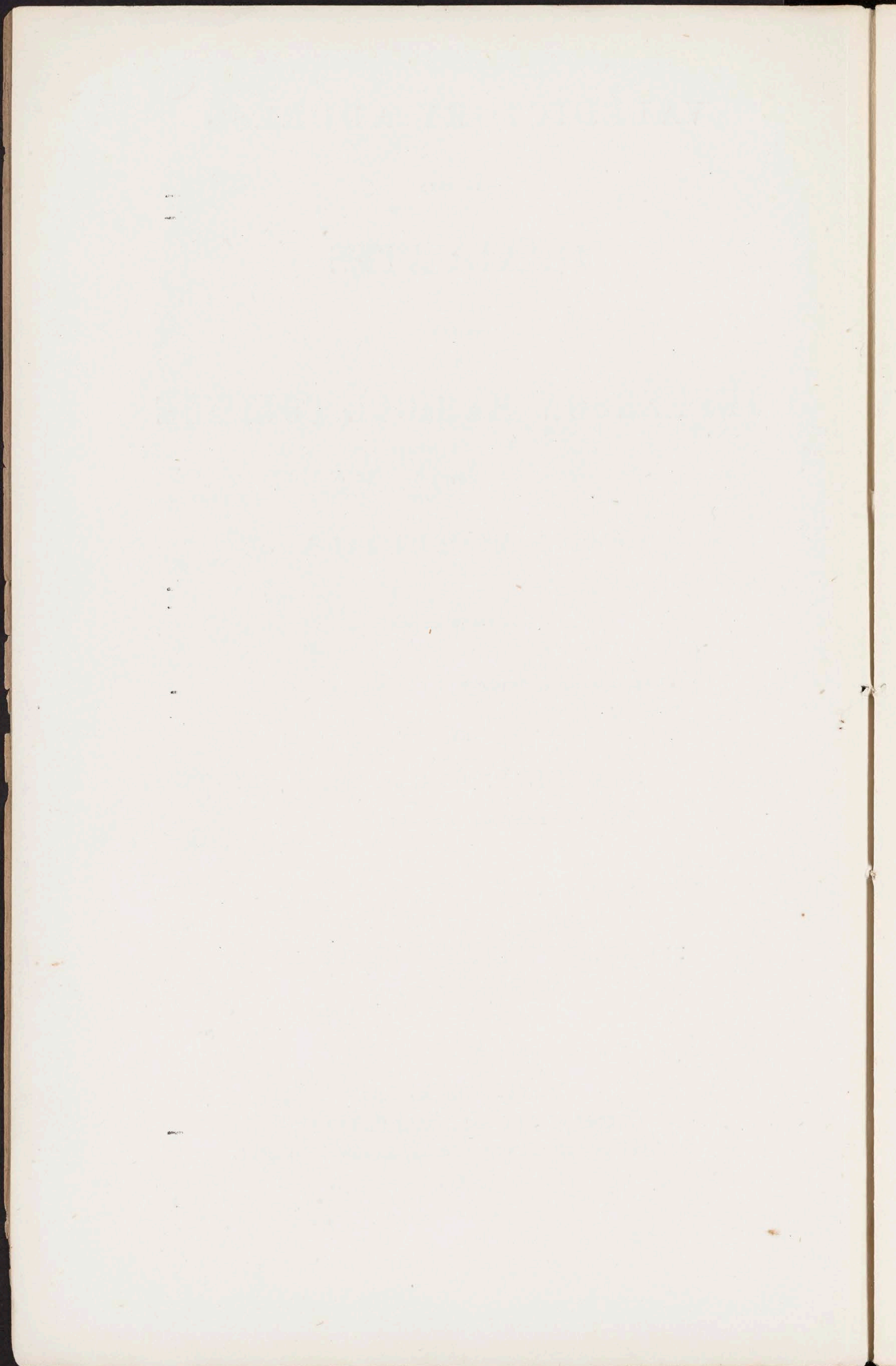
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CORRESPONDENCE.

JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE, }
March 6th, 1860.

Professor GROSS:

DEAR SIR:—At a meeting held this day, by the Students of the Jefferson Medical College, Mr. MAY B. COLLINS, of Mo., being appointed Chairman, and Mr. WM. KING, JR., of Ga., Secretary, the following resolution was adopted:—

“Resolved, That a committee of twelve be appointed by the Chair, to wait on PROF. GROSS, and solicit a copy of his Valedictory Address to the Graduating Class of 1860, for publication.”

We, the undersigned, constituting the committee appointed under the foregoing resolution, hope that you will accede to the request of the Class, and have the honor to subscribe ourselves, dear Sir,

Very respectfully,

Your friends and ob't servants,

H. P. FARNHAM, of Mass.

J. A. COOPER, Ky.

J. S. CUNNINGHAM, Pa.

S. FULTON, N. C.

D. W. HOOVER, Pa.

J. A. SALE, Va.

S. H. HYND, Tenn.

P. P. INGALLS, Me.

R. J. PARHAM, Miss.

J. A. BUTTS, Ga.

A. SEYDEL, Nic'a.

M. CAMPBELL, Texas.

Committee.

PHILADELPHIA, March 7th, 1860.

GENTLEMEN:

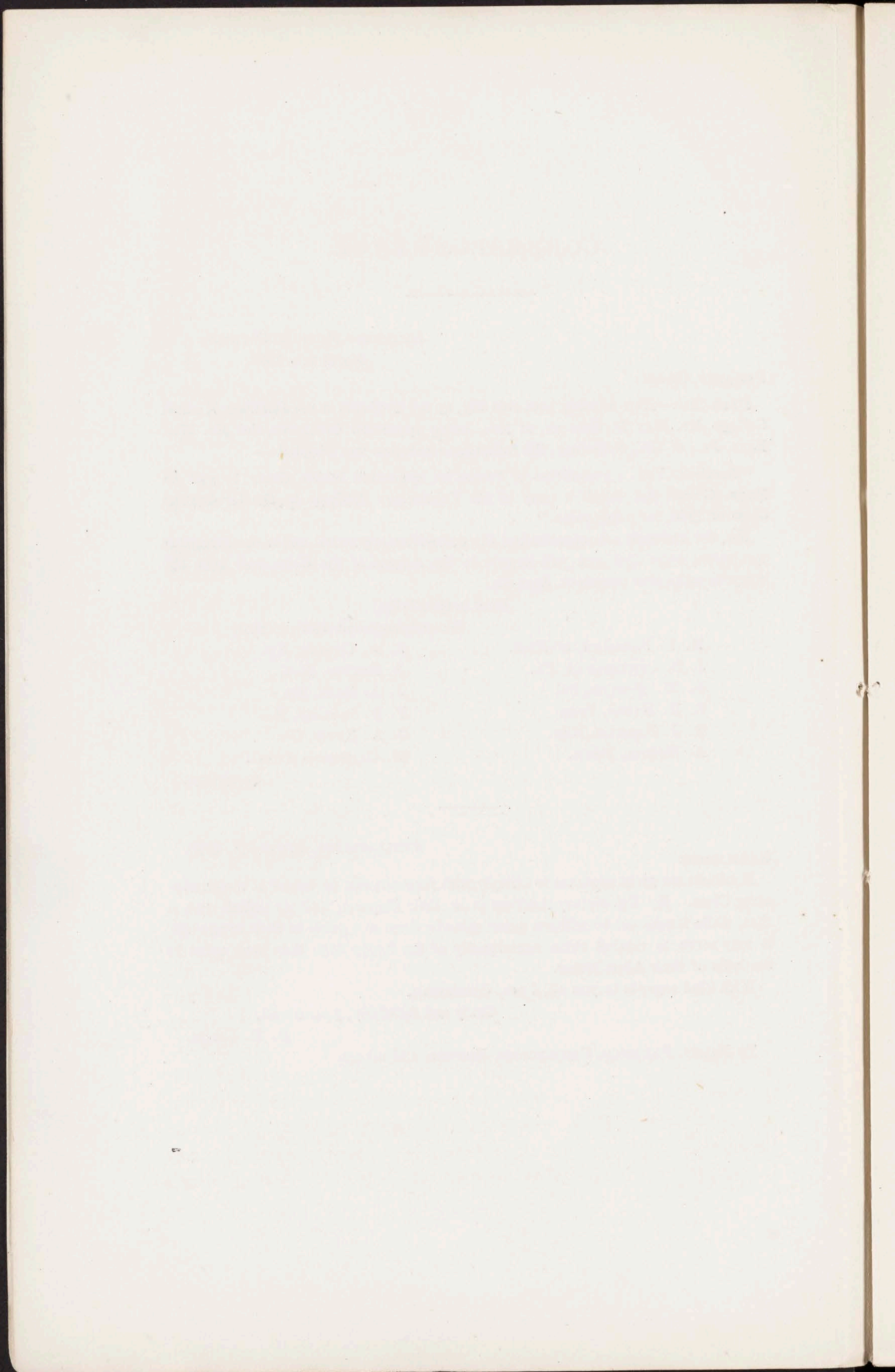
It affords me great pleasure to comply with your request on behalf of the Graduating Class. My Valedictory Address is at their disposal; and my ardent wish is that, while it may not be without some value to them as a guide to their future life, it may serve to remind them occasionally of the happy days they have spent in the halls of their Alma Mater.

With kind regards to you all, I am, Gentlemen,

Truly and faithfully, your friend,

S. D. GROSS.

To MESSRS. FARNHAM, CUNNINGHAM, HOOVER, and others.



VALEDICTORY ADDRESS.

Rotation in office, a custom sanctioned by long usage among our colleges, devolves upon me the agreeable task of addressing you upon an occasion alike interesting to us all; to you, because it marks a new era in your career; to us, because it affords us an opportunity of offering you a few words of advice, preparatory to sending you forth into the world to plant the standard of our profession.

The ceremonial which has just been performed by the President of the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Jefferson Medical College, has suddenly severed the fetters of your pupilage, at the same time that it has invested you with the highest honors which the Institution can confer. That solemn act—for so it should be regarded by us all—has placed you under new relations; your academic life is terminated; our connections as teachers and pupils are dissolved; and a new career, bright and auspicious, we trust, is opening before you. The winter of your discontent is passed, and the spring-tide of your existence, with its genial warmth and its fragrant blossoms, awakens in your breasts new hopes and aspirations. You have this day, in the presence of this assembled multitude, been solemnly dedicated to the service of one of the greatest and most benevolent professions that an all-wise and beneficent God has vouchsafed to the human race for the mitigation and cure of its physical infirmities; a profession which numbers a quarter of a million of regular members engaged in active practice; a profession which, through its various medical schools, annually educates many thousand young men to dispense the blessings of the healing art; a profession which has at its command, for the purpose of recording the prominent facts which daily fall under its observation, upwards of two hundred medical presses, most of them conducted by men of ability and honest principle; a profession which probably possesses a more abundant literature than any other single department of human learning; a profession, in fine, which can boast of a descent more

ancient, by nearly five hundred years, than that of Christianity itself. Looking down through the long vista of twenty-four centuries, the profession of which you have this day become legitimate, and, we trust, worthy members, recognizes as its great founder the immortal Hippocrates, himself the descendant of a long line of physicians, standing at the base of the mighty and majestic column, which, lifting its head aloft to heaven, as a monument of our labors, and as a bond of our brotherhood, you are, in the providence of God, destined to uphold and adorn. What a noble, what a sublime spectacle! What motives for exertion and devotion on the part of the young aspirant after professional renown and usefulness!

Receiving, as you do, the honors of the doctorate, near the middle of the nineteenth century, the most enlightened and enterprising period in the world's history, the ceremonial of this morning derives additional interest from the reflection that you are among the latest links in that great chain which, stretching, like a glorious rainbow, along the horizon of time, connects you with the fathers of the profession, and makes you the recipients at once of their blessing, their knowledge, and their fame.

From the limited time allotted to me on this occasion, my remarks must necessarily be brief; but I should be unjust alike to you, to my colleagues, and to myself, if I did not attempt to direct your attention somewhat prominently to a few great topics, which, if properly discussed, cannot fail to exert a salutary influence upon your future lives. These are, first, your duty to the public; secondly, your duty to your brethren; and, lastly, your duty to the profession, considered in its associate or corporate capacity.

I.—One of the first duties which you will have to perform, upon leaving the halls of your Alma Mater, will be to consider your relations and obligations to the public, or the people among whom it may hereafter be your lot to dwell. These relations and obligations are of the most delicate and solemn character. The very fact that you have studied medicine, and that you are about to enter upon its practice, implies a tacit contract between you and the public that you bind yourselves to perform, well and truly, or to the best of your abilities, all the requirements of your profession; that you are worthy to be intrusted with the guardianship of the health and lives of your fellow citizens, and that you are not only willing but ready to meet every emergency, however sudden, unexpected or trying, likely to arise within the sphere of your influence.

For a while the only evidence that the public will have of your fitness to serve them in this capacity, will be your diploma, or the knowledge that you are graduates of some respectable medical school. It is, therefore, natural to inquire, what you are to do with this document, of what use it will be to you, and where you are to put it? Will you inclose it in a frame, and hang it up in your office, in order that every one that enters may see and admire it? By no means; for such an act would only be an evidence of ostentation and weakness, and would be sure to bring upon you the condemnation of your professional brethren, as well as the ridicule of the more enlightened members of the community. It would be regarded as a trick to entrap the unwary, in order to secure business. Will you roll it up, and put it away in your desk, thus concealing it altogether from vulgar gaze? Of the two expedients, the latter is not only the more modest, but also the more honorable and tasteful. But while you thus bury the precious document, a document which has cost you so much labor and anxiety, do not forget it, or treat it with contempt; on the contrary, let it be an object of constant reverence and regard, a thing worthy to be thought about. Let it be remembered that it has a significance; look upon it as something sacred, as a pledge of affection for your profession, as a sort of wedding ring, reminding you constantly of your early vows; in a word, as an incentive to noble and generous deeds. A diploma, abstractly considered, is merely a piece of dry parchment; but if we look at its inscription, it will be found to be replete with meaning. The diploma presented to you this morning bears upon its face the names of your teachers, signed by their own hands, and also that of the President of the Honorable Board of Trustees of our College, testifying to all men your fitness to practise the healing art among the people of this vast and enlightened nation; it is a certificate of character, both moral and professional; and hence, emanating as it confessedly does from one of the great schools of the age, it is worthy of being warmly cherished by you in all time to come. It is a document which confers upon you the inestimable privilege of healing the sick, of binding up the wounds of the injured, of restoring the sight of the blind, of opening the ears of the deaf, and of causing the lame to walk. It is a passport to society, a letter of introduction which will afford you an entrée to all classes of men, the rich and the poor, the great and the humble, the learned and the ignorant, the wise and the foolish.

But your diploma has another, and, if possible, a greater value; it is the first professional honor you have achieved; the first public acknowledgment of your industry, talents and good conduct. It should, therefore, be regarded by you as a basis upon which to erect your future reputation as men and practitioners. Whenever you look at it, or think of it, it should serve to remind you of your early struggles, of your arduous labors, of your aspirations for the doctorate. The ambitious student will say to himself, "If I have accomplished all this in a few years, I will endeavor so to improve my time and opportunities as to add still more to my knowledge, respectability and influence; my diploma shall be a salutary stimulus to further effort, the polar star of my future life."

Looking then, at this document, on the one hand, as involving the most solemn obligations to the Institution which this day sends you forth from her halls, and, on the other, as implying a still greater responsibility to the public, whom you are hereafter to serve in the capacity of ministers of the healing art, it may justly be assumed that you will spare no efforts to carry out its great behests. After a brief respite from your long-continued labors, so necessary alike to mind and body, you will recommence, with new vigor and new resolves, the great journey of life. You will consider your professional career as just begun; every day will see you at your work, earnestly and conscientiously striving to acquire new knowledge, and more just and expanded views of the nature and treatment of accident and disease. Your student-life will now begin in real earnest, from a higher and more agreeable stand-point. Hitherto, you were solely dependent upon the teachings of your preceptors, imbibing information second-hand; henceforth you are to be guided exclusively by your own judgment. You have picked up many good things by the wayside, many a pebble upon the sea-shore of medicine; but you will be among the first to admit that many of your ideas are still crude and imperfect. Years of toil will be necessary to give them form and symmetry, and to render them truly available. The knowledge of the young graduate of medicine may not unaptly be compared to the rude figure of the artist, hewn out of the shapeless marble; to endue it with life and beauty requires many a stroke of the hammer and the chisel. Appelles became Appelles only by the most indomitable industry and perseverance, united with an undying love for his profession, and a fixed determination to attain to its highest honors. You now see things dimly, as if through a veil; by-and-by, as your

knowledge increases, and your judgment matures, they will appear to you as transparent bodies, as if seen through the eye of faith and science.

A young physician, upon setting out in life, can commit no greater error than to flatter himself that he has no farther need of study, or that he may sit idly and listlessly in his office, waiting for practice. No matter what his qualifications may be, or the circumstances under which he commences his public career, business will and must come tardily. It is, indeed, right and proper that it should be thus. His age and inexperience are so many obstacles to his rapid introduction into practice. The public are generally slow in awarding their confidence to the young physician; they often regard him with suspicion, and they usually require some other demonstration of his fitness than the mere diploma, to induce them to make him the arbiter of their health and lives. They must know, first, that he has a well-ordered, if not a well-matured intellect; secondly, that he possesses all the qualities of a high-toned gentleman; and, thirdly, that he is thoroughly imbued with a love for his profession, as evinced by his ardent and devoted attachment to its interests, not spending his time idly or thoughtlessly, but in noble purposes and zealous studies, working while other men sleep, or while they are consuming their precious moments in indolence and dissipation. Providence has wisely ordained that every young physician should be subjected to a probationary ordeal. Severe and protracted as this ordeal often is, it is always in the end highly salutary and beneficial, affording him thus ample opportunities for reading and reflection, and for making a proper use of his practice by a thorough examination and study of his cases. Physick, the Father of American Surgery, waited several years for a fee; and many of the brightest ornaments of our profession were on the very verge of starvation and despondency before they made money enough to pay their office rent. A large business, at the outset of a professional career, should always be viewed as an evil instead of a blessing. Be patient, then, and, if necessary, even long suffering; labor hard; bide your time; do not clutch the "trick and fantasy of fame;" prepare yourselves well for the great task that is before you; occasions occur to all men, and when yours come, your knowledge and skill will be such as to command universal appreciation. Your reputation will spread as upon eagle's wings, and you will look back upon your early struggles merely as

so many trials to prepare you for a loftier and more enviable sphere of existence.

While you are thus patiently waiting for business, study the best authors in your profession, devoting also an occasional hour to the perusal of the English classics, especially the works of Shakspeare, Addison, Johnson, Hume, Scott, Mackintosh, Hallam, and Macaulay; not forgetting Bacon, Locke, Reid, Stewart, and Whately; nor the glorious writings of our own countrymen, Edwards, Channing, Prescott, Cooper, and Irving; which, while they serve to beguile your leisure moments, cannot fail to enlarge your minds, and to afford you more just and exalted ideas of the divine link that connects man with the Deity, the creature with the Creator.

It can hardly be supposed that any of you have entered upon your profession without a deep and abiding sense of its sacred character, and of its awful, I had almost said of its overwhelming, responsibilities. If there are any here who have failed to view this subject in its proper light, let them, I beseech them, by all that is dear and sacred, pause before they advance another step in the great work before them. What is your profession? What are its duties and its requirements? Have you ever seriously pondered these things, and given them that consideration and weight which they demand of you, as honest, conscientious, and well-qualified practitioners? Have you ever placed yourselves in imagination at the bedside of the sick and the dying? Have you ever seriously thought that you are henceforth to grapple with all kinds of diseases, revelling in the minds and bodies of beings, formed, like yourselves, in the image of their Creator; and endowed, like them, with immortal souls, which your ignorance and unfounded self-confidence may in a moment usher, like the assassin, into eternity? The foe with which you have to contend often, like the savage, lurks in ambush, and is frequently not less certain of his victim. I never enter the sick chamber, in any case involving extraordinary sagacity and skill, without a profound sense of my unworthiness to take an active part in the great struggle which disease and death are waging in my patient's system; without a deep feeling that my knowledge is wholly inadequate to enable me to grapple successfully with such an enemy. An error of diagnosis, a wrong prescription, or a mis-directed plunge of the knife, may be instrumental, perhaps in an instant, in snapping the vital cord, and in sending a human being

prematurely to the grave. Assuredly it is a solemn thing to be a physician, especially so when he is not fully prepared for the daily and hourly emergencies of his calling. It is a solemn reflection, and yet one which every honest and right-thinking man must often make, when he loses a patient, to be in doubt whether, if he had been treated differently, the victory might not have been on the side of life instead of that of death. It is on such occasions that a practitioner, bent upon the conscientious discharge of his duty, will be likely severely to scrutinize his conduct, and to accuse himself for time misspent and opportunities unimproved; and happy, thrice happy, will it be for him, if his judgment does not convict him of his shortcomings.

Let your conduct in your intercourse with the sick be that of refined and cultivated gentlemen; always courteous and dignified, never flattering for the sake of flattery, never stooping to wealth, station or position, always impressed with a proper sense of your duty, and ever ready and willing to discharge that duty to the best of your ability. It is not necessary that you should always weep with those that weep, or laugh with those that laugh. The physician who has a proper self-respect, and a just appreciation of the dignity of his profession, will not be likely to forget himself upon any occasion, whatever may be its character. The fawning sycophant and the boisterous merrymaker are alike out of place in the sick chamber. A cheerful countenance, a pleasing smile, a bright eye, and a light step are often of more service to our patients than medicine. A pompous man is generally an intensely selfish man; cold, stiff, arrogant, and conceited; never laughing, always repelling: no sunshine ever penetrates his soul, should he be so fortunate as to possess one. Much of your success in acquiring and retaining business will depend upon your manners. If it is the mind that makes the man, it is the address that makes the agreeable and popular physician.

Your intercourse with the world will bring you in contact with all classes of patients. While it should be your duty to treat them all with attention and respect, let me beseech you to be particularly kind to the poor and unfortunate; step lightly and gently into their presence; treat them with peculiar care and gentleness, and show them by your sympathy that you take a lively interest in their suffering. Who that has a heart to feel, and a soul to pity, would neglect the widow and the orphan, or refuse to bind up the wounds and sores of the vilest wretch upon earth? Be good physicians,

but be also good Samaritans. The young practitioner should regard it as a peculiar privilege to attend the poor; for while the knowledge derived from a careful study of their diseases will be of the greatest consequence to him in after life, the business thus acquired will often find its reward in the procurement of a more lucrative practice. Besides, he should not exercise his art merely as a mercenary pursuit, but rather as a liberal and elevated profession, which takes greater delight in giving than in receiving. Even when you shall have attained to eminence, much of your business will necessarily go unrequited. Physicians are notoriously badly paid the world over, and it may safely be asserted that in every community, both in city and country, they do, on an average, at least one-third of their work gratuitously.

Your visits to the sick chamber will often bring you in contact with persons who, in view of their critical condition, or approaching end, will reveal to you, despite perhaps your most earnest remonstrance, the very secrets of their souls, either for the purpose of easing their conscience, or of eliciting your sympathy and advice. Whatever the motive may be which prompts the act, make it a rule to preserve sacred and inviolate whatever is entrusted to you under such circumstances, not even disclosing it, except at his special mandate, to the judge upon his bench.

Contemplating the profession from this high stand-point, it is hardly possible to regard it in any other light than that of a divine institution, and its members as priests set apart for sacred purposes. The Roman orator, in view, doubtless, of the important services continually rendered by physicians, declared that there was no other class of men who, in their mode and extent of doing good, so nearly approached the gods. "If our art," says one of my former colleagues, the late lamented Bartlett, "be not strictly divine, it has duties and relations that are sacred; there is something sacerdotal in its offices and character, and it would be well for the young physician that his assumption of its responsibilities should be attended, like the consecration of the ancient priesthood, with the pomp of solemn and significant ceremonial; that holy garments for 'glory and for beauty' should be put upon him—the ephod, and the robe and the breast-plate—that he should be anointed with consecrated oil, and that, amid the perfume of sweet spices—of cens~~ors~~ burning with 'stacte and onycha, and galbanum, and pure frankincense,' he should be sanctified and set apart to his great ministry to humanity."

II.—I proceed, in the next place, to call your attention to the duty you owe to your brethren; premising that, unless that duty is well understood and honestly and faithfully executed, the consequences may be most disastrous, not only to your peace of mind, but also to your professional character.

You need hardly be told that your intercourse with your professional brethren should be regulated by the nicest sense of honor. Your motto should be to do unto them what you would wish them to do unto you. It should be a part of your business, by a careful observance of professional ethics, to render this intercourse not only harmonious, but eminently agreeable. Too often, unfortunately, the reverse is the case; strife and contention, sometimes bitter and unrelenting, instead of friendly relations, springing up, as distasteful to the public as they are disreputable to those more immediately concerned in them. Conduct like this cannot be too pointedly condemned. If there can be no cordiality between you and those whom you are obliged to meet in the sick-room, let there be at least an appearance of good feeling and an interchange of common civilities, so essential to the proper discharge of your duties. The chamber of the sick and the dying is no place for the exhibition of personalities, the exchange of invectives, or the display of professional jealousy. A dignified deportment, a temporary sacrifice of self, should ever characterize such intercourse. Your patient's interest should be paramount to every other consideration. But harsh words are not the only weapons that may be wielded to the disadvantage of your professional brethren; an inuendo, a shrug of the shoulder, or a significant look, is often more effective in undermining character and confidence than the most bitter and clamorous denunciation. The physician who seeks to injure his fellow practitioner will often fall by the very schemes which he devises for his brother's destruction. His conduct may for a time go unpunished, but sooner or later it will be sure to meet with the reward it so justly merits. Our patients are often shrewd and keen critics, and they seldom fail to repudiate a man who seeks to dishonor his neighbor. That there is at this moment much of this feeling in our profession is too palpably shown by the frequent trials for malpractice, which have of late figured so largely upon the statute-books of this country, and which, there is reason to believe, have been too often instigated by bad and designing men, intent upon the ruin of rival practitioners. Let me entreat you, as you value your reputation, and the honor of your

profession, to discountenance, by every means in your power, all such connivance; remembering that whatever brings discredit upon our noble calling brings, just in that proportion, discredit upon us, both as a body and as individuals. If we cannot conceal the errors of our brethren, or throw upon them the mantle of charity, let us at least do nothing to expose them before the world.

Be kind and conciliatory to those of your own age; courteous, if not deferential, to your seniors. The former are your competitors, if not your rivals, running the same career as yourselves; the latter, even if inferior in intelligence, are at least entitled to your respect; for they have borne the heat and burden of the day, adding dignity and honor to the profession. Knowledge is not vain or boastful; if you have more than your neighbors, the public will not be slow to find it out.

III.—The third and last point to which I desire to invite attention, is the duty you owe to the profession, considered in its associate or corporate capacity.

It is not necessary merely that you should deport yourselves as honorable men, or as enlightened and skilful practitioners, ever ready and willing to meet the various and responsible emergencies of your calling; but you should earnestly strive so to cultivate your profession as to add something to its general stock of usefulness for the benefit of your cotemporaries and successors. You have inherited a precious legacy; the noble temple of medicine has been reared to its present stately proportions, not by the labors of a few, but by the honest and faithful exertions of the many, who, regardless of the cost, have from time to time deposited their votive offerings upon its holy shrine for your benefit and instruction. Shall it be said by those who are to come after you that you have left no substantial trophies of your practice? that you have garnered up no scientific treasures, but have dropped off, one by one, carrying with you, miser-like, to the grave, the results of your observation and experience? It were better you had never been born. An idle man is of all men the most pitiable and the most selfish; always receiving, never giving. Like the barren fig tree, mentioned in Scripture, he yields no fruit. Medicine is, and ever must be, a progressive science; it can become stationary, only when its votaries cease to labor and to watch. Do not delude yourselves with the idea that nothing remains to be accomplished. If we take a retrospect only of the last twenty-five years, we shall be struck with

amazement at the great achievements that every where meet the eye, and enchant the beholder. There is not one single department of the profession that has not, within that short period, experienced the renovative influence of progress; while some of its branches have been enriched by discoveries that have materially abridged human suffering, and prolonged the term of human existence. The birth of anæsthetics alone, or the means of averting pain in surgical and obstetric practice, due to the labors of one of our countrymen, Dr. Morton, of Boston, forms one of the proudest epochs in the scientific world, hardly surpassed by the splendid discoveries of Jenner in vaccination, and should serve to admonish us to explore still farther the arcana of nature for remedies calculated to mitigate suffering and to cure disease.

By contributing to the general stock of professional knowledge, you will also assist in establishing an American medical literature, as yet little more than traced in outline, but destined, at no distant day, to assume an exalted rank in the great republic of letters. There is no field where more work remains to be done, or one which presents a better and more inviting prospect of reward to its zealous votaries. The success which already marks our career in medical authorship should encourage us to press forward in the race of scientific distinction which has so long characterized some of the nations of Europe. While we should seize with avidity whatever of good emanates from the foreign press, we should endeavor to sever the fetters which have so long held us in bondage, and proudly assert our literary and scientific independence. It is the peculiar prerogative of the American mind, an offspring of republicanism, to think and to act for itself; and in no profession, or pursuit of life, is this more necessary than in our own.

I come, in the last place, to say a word in regard to the fidelity you owe to the profession. This duty is paramount to every other. You must give yourselves up unreservedly to its interests and requirements. Without this your life will be a failure. You need not, it is true, all expect to attain to the elevated science of a Hunter or a Bichat; the profound observation of a Hippocrates or a Sydenham; the wonderful erudition of a Boerhaave, a Haller, or a Dunglison; the classical scholarship of a Linacre; or the grace and polish of a Cullen, a Gregory, or a Watson; there are comparatively few men who can fathom the depths of the healing art in any of its branches, or, eagle-like, soar aloft into the ethereal heights of

science; but there is not one of you who may not, if he choose, become eminently useful and respectable, or make his mark upon the community in which he lives, if not upon his age and country. With brains to think, and eyes to see, and hands to work, and a will to influence and regulate his conduct, a man is almost equal to any task he may undertake.

Steady, systematic effort, and a determined, resolute aim in life, never fail to bring with them their natural rewards. Plant yourselves, in imagination, upon some lofty eminence in company with the great and the good and the noble of the profession, and, keeping them continually in view, endeavor to imitate their example of well-directed toil and of indomitable industry; daily renewing your vows upon the sacred altar of your profession, and watching, with vestal eye, the oil in the lamp that lights your pathway. Above all, cherish a just and an abiding sense of your manhood; feel that you are men of destiny, of purpose, and of power; that God has placed you here for some wise and useful end; that you have been entrusted with the holiest interests of your profession; in a word, feel as if you could hold the world in your fist, and unlock all her secrets for the benefit of suffering humanity.

Finally, I charge you, by the sacred ties of a common brotherhood, to keep yourselves upright and pure before men; to eschew all that is foreign to your legitimate pursuits, especially the polluted and polluting arena of politics; to cherish and foster your Alma Mater, as a pure and spotless daughter of science; and to exert yourselves with a mighty, energizing, undying vigor, for the honor and advancement of your profession and the happiness of your fellow creatures. Carry with you our best wishes for your welfare, and the heartfelt assurance of our sympathy in your early struggles for distinction and usefulness. "Go forth to meet the shadowy future without fear, and with a manly heart;" never looking backward, but always pressing onward, remembering that art is long and life is short, and that whatever is to be done must be done quickly and earnestly.

GRADUATES

OF

JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PHILADELPHIA.

MARCH, 1860.

At a Public Commencement, held on the 12th of March, 1860, the degree of DOCTOR OF MEDICINE was conferred on the following gentlemen by the Hon. EDWARD KING, LL. D., President of the Institution; after which a Valedictory Address to the Graduates was delivered by Prof. GROSS.

| NAME. | STATE OR COUNTRY. | SUBJECT OF THESIS. |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Abercrombie, George A | Alabama. | Signs of Pregnancy. |
| Adair, J. Todd | Pennsylvania. | Iodide of Potassium. |
| Adams, Patrick H. | South Carolina. | Plastic Matter. |
| Addison, William J. | Maryland. | Stricture of the Urethra. |
| Andrews, A. E. | Georgia. | Stimulants |
| Arnold, A. E. | Louisiana. | Physiology of Death. |
| Atkins, William L. | Kentucky. | Scarlet Fever. |
| Bache, Dallas | Dist. of Columbia. | Pathological Physiognomy. |
| Bailey, L. Philip | Virginia. | Effects of Onanism. |
| Barksdale, M. S. | Virginia. | Variola. |
| Bass, James P. | Tennessee. | Nutrition. |
| Bass, Joseph F. | Virginia. | Cephalalgia. |
| Beesley, James P. | Mississippi. | Digestion. |
| Bigelow, Robert J. | Florida. | Scarlatina Maligna. |
| Bishop, Milton | Georgia. | Ipecacuanha. |
| Blackwell, Nicholas | Mississippi. | Typhoid Pneumonia. |
| Blanck, George A. | Pennsylvania. | { Duty of the Obstetrician in Natural Labor. |
| Blocker, John E. | Georgia. | Enteric Fever. |
| Brinton, Daniel G. | Pennsylvania. | { Supposed Pathological Influence of the Moon. |
| Burkhalter, Charles M. | South Carolina. | Acute Dysentery. |
| Buterbaugh, John (M. D.) | Maryland. | Acute and Chronic Metritis. |
| Butler, L. M. | Florida. | Yellow Fever. |
| Butler, Matthew M. | Tennessee. | Glance at the Science of Medicine. |
| Butts, Judson A. | Georgia. | Sulphuric Acid. |
| Campbell, Marcus | Texas. | Yellow Fever. |
| Campbell, Robert | Virginia. | { Therapeutic Application of Cold in Fevers. |
| Chandler, Joseph H. | Delaware. | Treatment of Laryngitis. |
| Childs, Benjamin F. | Georgia. | Tertiary Syphilis. |
| Clendenin, William G. | North Carolina. | Vitality of the Blood. |
| Cline, Godfrey H. | Pennsylvania. | Apoplexy. |
| Coates, Benjamin F. | Ohio. | Dysentery. |
| Cochran, E. C. | Tennessee. | Malarious Diseases of East Tennessee. |
| Collins, May B. | Missouri. | Young Doctor and his Profession. |
| Comstock, Lucius L. | Ohio. | Mania a potu. |
| Cooper, James D. | Virginia. | Physiology of the Circulation. |
| Cooper, John Atchison | Kentucky. | Aneurism. |

| NAME. | STATE OR COUNTRY. | SUBJECT OF THESIS. |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Cowin, John H. | Alabama. | Croup. |
| Crawford, John D. | Virginia. | Menstruation. |
| Cunningham, John S. | Pennsylvania. | { Death from Faulty Innervation of the Pneumogastric Nerve. |
| Davis, William N. | Pennsylvania. | Syphilis. |
| Deane, James S. | Arkansas. | Pneumonia. |
| Delany, Alfred | Pennsylvania. | Cynanche Trachealis. |
| Dennis, Jacob M. | Virginia. | Phthisis Pulmonalis. |
| Dixon, John | Alabama. | Abortion. |
| Dula, F. G. | North Carolina. | Injuries of Intemperance. |
| Duncan, Thomas F. | Pennsylvania. | Scarlatina. |
| Dunlap, B. G. | North Carolina. | Tobacco. |
| Dunlap, James C. | Virginia. | Mercury. |
| Elkin, Thomas B. | Mississippi. | Pleuritis. |
| Evans, William E. | Missouri. | Enteric Fever. |
| Fairleigh, Robert M. | Kentucky. | Conservative Pathology. |
| Farnham, Horace P. | Massachusetts. | { Bones of the Forearm, and their Frac- tures. |
| Ferguson, James E. | Virginia. | Syphilis. |
| Fischer, Albert W. | Pennsylvania. | Scarlatina. |
| Foster, Z. N. | Mississippi. | Bilious Remittent Fever. |
| Fulton, Saunders | North Carolina. | Abortion. |
| Gaines, John M. (M. D.) | Virginia. | Course, &c., of the Vas Deferens. |
| Gaither, W. W. | North Carolina. | The Doctor of Medicine. |
| Gano, R. Ewing | Kentucky. | Function of Reproduction. |
| Gibboney, S. Rush | Pennsylvania. | Gangrene. |
| Gordon, John | Mississippi. | Symptomatology. |
| Graham, Daniel McL. | North Carolina. | Diabetes Mellitus. |
| Greene, Frank M. | Kentucky. | Placenta Prævia. |
| Hageron, Angus C. | Georgia. | Pneumonia. |
| Hanks, George M. | Georgia. | Yellow Jessamine. |
| Harris, Alonzo F. | Alabama. | Primary Syphilis. |
| Hatler, Morris (M. D.) | Missouri. | Typhoid Fever. |
| Hedgepeth, Josiah | North Carolina. | Amenorrhœa. |
| Henderson, C. R. | Mississippi. | Congestive Fever. |
| Hendry, Bowman | New Jersey. | Pneumonia. |
| Hereford, Thomas P., Jr. | Virginia. | Intermittent Fever. |
| Hoover, David W. | Pennsylvania. | Dyspepsia. |
| Hornback, William | Missouri. | Bilious Remittent Fever. |
| Hunter, Charles J. | Virginia. | Phthisis. |
| Hunter, George W. | Virginia. | Organs of Digestion. |
| Hynds, S. Houston | Tennessee. | Signs of Pregnancy. |
| Ingalls, P. P. | Maine. | Bronchitis. |
| Ingram, William A. | North Carolina. | Dysmenorrhœa. |
| Jackson, G. A. | Virginia. | Dysentery. |
| Johnson, F. F. | Illinois. | Gunshot Wounds. |
| Jones, John M. | Pennsylvania. | { Difference between the Vegetable and Animal Kingdoms. |
| Jones, Montfort | Virginia. | Hernia. |
| Judkins, George B. | Alabama. | Compression of the Brain. |

| NAME. | STATE OR COUNTRY. | SUBJECT OF THESIS. |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Kelley, William I. | Ohio. | Medicine as a Science and an Art. |
| Kerns, George M. | Georgia. | { Apocynum Cannabinum, or Indian Hemp. |
| King, William, Jr. | Georgia. | |
| Knickerbocker, Boliver | Pennsylvania. | Tonsillitis. |
| | | The Reparative Process. |
| Lackey, Benjamin F. | Tennessee. | Hernia. |
| Langenderfer, J. R. | New Jersey. | Scrofula. |
| Lester, James R. | Tennessee. | Enteric Fever. |
| Lever, John D. F. | South Carolina. | Erysipelas. |
| Lewis, Daniel W. | North Carolina. | Remittent Fever. |
| Loftin, James Merrill | Georgia. | Pulmonitis. |
| Mace, William G. | South Carolina. | Indigestion. |
| Mann, Augustine A. | Massachusetts. | Enteric Fever. |
| Mapp, John L. | Georgia. | Typhoid Fever. |
| Martin, Robert S. (M. D.) | Missouri. | Corn as an Antiperiodic. |
| Mathews, Fleming J. | Georgia. | Prolapsus Uteri. |
| Maynard, S. S. | Maryland. | Polypus Uteri. |
| McAdory, James S. | Alabama. | Inflammation. |
| McCullough, Joseph W. | Delaware. | Infantile Hygiene. |
| McHatton, A. H. (M. D.) | Missouri. | Rheumatism. |
| McKinney, David | Pennsylvania. | Scarlatina. |
| McNite, William P. | Pennsylvania. | Intermittent Fever. |
| Mitchell, G. W. | Pennsylvania. | Typhoid Fever. |
| Moffitt, William J. | Tennessee. | Function of Respiration. |
| Morgan, Ellington J. | Georgia. | Pneumonia. |
| Morris, William Wade | Virginia. | Inflammation. |
| Morton, Charles B. | Virginia. | Scarlatina. |
| Mulholland, David | Missouri. | Intermitting Fever. |
| Nelson, Thomas W. | Virginia. | Variola. |
| Nelson, William W. | Iowa. | Cholera Infantum. |
| Nichols, Pennock J. | Pennsylvania. | Rubeola. |
| Nicholson, Hugh W. | Georgia. | Retroversion of the Womb. |
| Norris, Alonzo | New York. | Inversio Uteri. |
| Owen, George A. | Virginia. | The Placenta. |
| Owen, W. T. | Virginia. | Delirium Tremens. |
| Parham, R. J. | Mississippi. | Acute Enteritis. |
| Perchment, Albert H. | Pennsylvania. | Enteric Fever. |
| Phillips, N. D. | Mississippi. | Spermatorrhœa. |
| Pusey, Robert B. | Kentucky. | Traumatic Tetanus. |
| Pyles, Newton C. | Tennessee. | Pus. |
| Ralston, Robert G. | Pennsylvania. | Typhoid Fever. |
| Roberts, George H. | Maryland. | Amenorrhœa. |
| Roberts, William H. H. | Georgia. | True Aims of the Physician. |
| Robinson, L. W. | North Carolina. | Inflammation. |
| Rowell, E. H. | Alabama. | Bilious Remittent Fever. |
| Rudisill, Benjamin F. | Georgia. | Yellow Fever. |
| Rushing, Greenwood | Mississippi. | Croup. |
| Sale, John Alexander | Virginia. | Dysentery. |
| Saunders, Samuel A. | Arkansas. | Typhoid Fever |
| Sellers, Hiram F. | Pennsylvania. | Diarrhœa. |

| NAME. | STATE OR COUNTRY. | SUBJECT OF THESIS. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Seydel, Arthur | Nicaragua. | Epidemic Cholera. |
| Shaffner, John F. | North Carolina. | Arsenic and its Compounds. |
| Shaw, Daniel W. | North Carolina. | Biliary Calculi. |
| Silvis, George W. | Pennsylvania. | Rubeola. |
| Sim, J. Thomas | Maryland. | Retroversio Uteri. |
| Spang, Frederick K. | Pennsylvania. | Veratrum Viride. |
| Stewart, Clayton M. (M. D.) | Illinois. | Dropsy. |
| Stewart, Elam L. | Illinois. | Milk Sickness. |
| Stuart, Robert | Kentucky. | Variola. |
| Taggart, John F. | Indiana. | Treatment of Pneumonia. |
| Tate, Thomas J. | Alabama. | Gonorrhœa. |
| Taylor, Daniel W. | Indiana. | The Devotee of Medicine. |
| Taylor, Frederick S. | New York. | Dyspepsia. |
| Thomas, William T. | South Carolina. | Tobacco. |
| Thompson, Davis | Tennessee. | Modus Operandi of Medicines. |
| Thompson, W. P. | Alabama. | Opium. |
| Tilman, J. R. (M. D.) | Indiana. | The Mind. |
| Tilman, Joel S. | Indiana. | Uterine Hemorrhage. |
| Van Buskirk, Joseph T. | Virginia. | Bilious Remittent Fever. |
| Walker, Fleetwood | Georgia. | Hepatitis. |
| Walker, Frank | Virginia. | Treatment of Inflammation. |
| Walker, William J. | Alabama. | Auscultation and Percussion. |
| Wallis, Hugh Maxwell | Maryland. | Theory and Practice of Medicine. |
| Wallis, Robert S. (M. D.) | Missouri. | Infantile Remittent Fever. |
| Warren, Llewellyn P. | North Carolina. | { The Catamenial Flow, a Secretion or a Hemorrhage? |
| Warren, William C. | Virginia. | |
| Watson, Andrew J. | Kentucky. | Amenorrhœa. |
| Watts, David A. | Kentucky. | Dysentery. |
| Weldon, Andrew J. | Tennessee. | Spermatorrhœa. |
| Wheeler, Levi L. | Tennessee. | Pneumonitis. |
| Willcoxon, James | Pennsylvania. | Dyspepsia. |
| Wingo, Thomas R. | Georgia. | Stricture of the Urethra. |
| Wood, Eason B. | Tennessee. | Intermittent Fever. |
| Word, James C. | Alabama. | Pneumonia. |
| Wright, Joseph P. | Mississippi. | Typhoid Fever. |
| Yantis, Robert H. | Pennsylvania. | Diagnosis of the Syphilides. |
| Yeomans, George | Kentucky. | Blood and its Executive Duties. |
| Zacharias, J. Forney | Pennsylvania. | Medicine a Science. |
| | Maryland. | Diseases of the Knee-joint. |

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